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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/837,417 | 04/19/2001 | Jin-Yong Joo | 12611-P66596US0 | 8904 |

136 7590 08/03/2004
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EXAMINER

CHOUDHURY, AZIZUL Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2143

DATE MAILED: 08/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/837,417

Applicant(s)

JOO, JIN-YONG

Examiner

Azizul Choudhury

Art Unit

2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Broadhurst (US Pat No: US006560634B1).

1. With regards to claim 1, Broadhurst teaches a method of assigning an e-mail address comprising:
 - (A) a step of collecting a website which does not provide a web mail service for public by a website which provides a web mail service for public and equips with a web server and the first database stored already offered e-mail addresses of a website which provides a web mail service for public and storing already offered e-mail addresses of a website which does not provide a web mail service for public in the second database;
 - (B) a step of transmitting an input window for inputting a user chosen ID through the web server of the website providing a web mail service when a user connects to the website providing a web mail service for obtaining an e-mail address;

(C) a step of assigning and storing an e-mail address in the first database by combining the user chosen ID with the domain name of the website providing a web mail service if there is no duplicated ID after searching the first database by the web server which received the ID; and

(D) a step of assigning and storing an e-mail address in the second database by combining the user chosen ID with the domain name of the website in which the chosen ID is not occupied by another user after searching the second database by the web server if the chosen ID is already used by another user in the first database in the step

(Broadhurst teaches a design that searches internet domain names to find an available domain name (column 2, lines 32-52, Broadhurst). An email address is part of a domain name. If means are present to search for a domain name, means must exist by which to search for an email address. In addition, Broadhurst states that the Whois feature allows for the searching of available email addresses (column 2, lines 10-29, Broadhurst), this feature is available in Broadhurst's design as well (column 6, line 30, Broadhurst). As claimed, a site is provided for entering the query request (column 3, lines 25-42, Broadhurst). The design then performs the query by saving the request information and checking against servers for existing names. The design then presents the results the user (column 6, lines 38-43, Broadhurst). Finally, the option is provided, if the domain name is available, to purchase and reserve the domain name (column 6, lines 44-67, Broadhurst)).

2. With regards to claim 2, Broadhurst teaches a method of assigning an e-mail address according to claim 1, wherein the website which provides a web mail service and the website which does not provide a web mail service use the same mail server (The site in Broadhurst's design provides a search feature from its servers. It also provides domain name registering and hosting (note that the Assignee is Verisign, a site recognized for its web hosting services) from its servers).
3. With regards to claim 3, Broadhurst teaches a method wherein a user can assign the same file name for his or her homepage with the e-mail address assigned in the above step (C) or step (D) when a service to provide space for a homepage is carried out along with the assigning of an e-mail address in the website providing a web mail service (Broadhurst's design allows for the registering and reserving of domain names (column 6, lines 44-67, Broadhurst). A domain name is used for both, websites and for email addresses. Since, Broadhurst's design allows for domain names to be registered, means are inherently present to save website addresses and email addresses as claimed).

Remarks

After careful review of the application, the examiner failed to note any truly unique traits within the design claimed. The claims provided are seen as being general

and would benefit from the inclusion of more detailed specifications. The overall design as currently claimed is known in the art as Whois searches. Such services are currently provided by companies such as Verisign (the prior art's assignee) and Network Solutions. Should the applicants have any further details regarding their design that would present their design as being truly unique over the prior art provided by the examiner, they are encouraged to amend the specifications and claims to reflect such changes.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Azizul Choudhury whose telephone number is 703-305-7209. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on 703-308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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